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April 20, 2023

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

Ms. Deanne Criswell
Administrator
Federal Emergency Management Agency
500 C St. SW
Washington, DC 20472

Dear Administrator Criswell:

Thank you for your service. I would like to congratulate you on your appointment as the first female administrator of the Federal Emergency Management Agency (“FEMA”). I was pleased with your strategic and swift response to Hurricane Ian after it devastated my home state of Florida last year. Under your leadership, FEMA has responded efficiently to natural disasters that appear to be occurring more frequently.

I write to invite you to my congressional district on **Monday, April 24, 2023**, to conduct a site visit and hold a press conference to update my constituents on the impact and damage of historic flooding that occurred in Broward County (the “County”) last week and to outline the federal government’s response.

I represent Florida’s 20th Congressional District, which consists of Broward County. On Wednesday, April 12, 2023, Broward County officials declared a state of emergency after torrential rains caused unprecedented flooding that damaged homes and cars, flooded streets, prompted widespread Broward County Public Schools closures, and temporarily grounded flights at the Fort Lauderdale–Hollywood International Airport.

Broward County is Florida’s second-most populous county, with an estimated 1.96 million residents. The County consists of majority-minority residents, mostly Black and Latino. Following the more than two feet of rain that deluged my district, hundreds of families have been displaced, as their homes sustained major damage.

As you can see, the “1-in-1,000-year” flood event wreaked havoc across my district. My constituents are calling upon me to act immediately and update them on how the federal government will assist in administering public and individual assistance as we seek to restore our

community. I, as well as the local officials and constituents in my district, would welcome your presence as we collectively work together to survey response activities and assess unmet needs.

Thank you in advance for your attention to this critical matter. I appreciate your consideration of this urgent request. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact my staff by email at LaTreshia.Hamilton@mail.house.gov or by phone at (202) 225-1313. Please confirm receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,



Sheila Cherfilus-McCormick
Member of Congress

cc: President Joseph R. Biden, The White House